



## **MINUTES**

### **Indianola Hometown Pride**

#### **Committee Meeting**

**March 22, 2018 at 5:30 pm**

**Indianola City Hall, City Council Chambers (110 N First Street)**

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**Attendance:** Doug Bylund, Shirley Clark, Lorin Ditzler, Lisa Harms, Heather Hulen, Jill Johnson, Emmett Konrad, Kerry McKasson, Angela Nelson, Jenn Pfeifer-Malaney, Tara Rehmeier, Stacy Strong, Monica Vail, Brianna Vaughn, Colleen Willmott

**Absent:** Terry Pauling, Becky Wigeland

#### **Review of purpose of Hometown Pride and committee organization**

Committee members introduced themselves. Ditzler provided a quick review of the purpose of the group. She noted that the committee is strongly linked to the City, but will operate autonomously and have full decision making power on what projects they pursue. She also reminded the committee that they do not have a dedicated funding stream and will need to pursue grants, fundraising or other financial sources to fund their projects.

Committee members are expected to serve for 2 years and are asked to attend the monthly planning meetings and participate in the implementation of Hometown Pride projects.

#### **2018 Projects**

At the previous informational meeting, participants suggested a number of ideas for projects that Hometown Pride can pursue. Ditzler reviewed the list and asked for additions. The new ideas suggested were:

- Park clean-up and improvements
- A big festival for Indianola
- Assess what organizations in town are already doing
- Splash Pad
- Walkability Study

Committee members were asked to each select their top 4 choices for which projects to discuss for the remainder of the meeting. The topics selected by the most committee members were:

- Investing in the square/downtown
- Assess what organization in town are already doing / Tell people about the many opportunities to get involved / A central hub for getting the word out about events (these 3 all had high interest and were closely related, so they were combined)
- Splash pad

### **Investing in the Square**

Pfeifer-Malaney informed the group that the Chamber of Commerce is bringing in an organization to do a downtown assessment September 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> and they have expressed an interest in having our committee participate and assist with this effort. The committee agreed that this would be a good way to act on this goal.

Hulen, Pfeifer-Malaney, Konrad, Nelson, Harms and Strong volunteered to assist with this effort. Pfeifer-Malaney will connect this subcommittee with the Chamber to discuss how we can help.

### **Assess what organizations in town are already doing**

Johnson noted that the Record-Herald puts out an annual publication about community organizations, and that might be a good place to start. Pfeifer-Malaney said that the Chamber has already started work on creating an app/website that would be a central hub for information on all community organizations, but that it has been in limbo waiting for completion. The committee wished to offer their assistance to the Chamber in moving it forward.

Johnson, Hulen, Rehmeier, Harms, and Pfeifer-Malaney volunteered to help with this. They will connect with the Chamber to find out what is needed. The next step beyond finding out a complete list of organizations would be to find out what they are working on, especially those that have missions that overlap with ours.

Clark noted that Kiwanis is working on a grant that will require people in town to vote on it, and asked that the committee help with that.

### **Splash Pad**

Strong, who originally suggested the idea of the splash pad, said that she and friends had discussed the park behind Dollar General as a potential location for a splash pad. She said that she visits the Des Moines splash pads frequently with her children and that it would be great to have one in town.

Harms noted that they are a good attraction and could bring people in from other towns.

Bylund informed the group that there was a proposal for a splash pad back in 2001 that had a design and grant funding, but did not ultimately get approved by City Council.

A question was asked about costs. Bylund said he believed the previous proposal was about \$250,000 but that was 15 years ago. He said that costs vary widely, with some splash pads costing up to \$1 million. Bylund noted that the water in a splash pad is treated and recirculated.

Vail noted that a splash pad would be a great project to drum up enthusiasm for our committee.

Ditzler asked what action steps the group would like to take. The group made suggestions and took volunteers for various tasks:

- Research Grants – Vaughn will work on this
- Find out approximate costs
- Consider location options – Willmott offered to work on this
- Talk to Des Moines Parks and Rec for advice – Bylund will contact them
- Reach out to designers – Konrad will do this

Vaughn, Willmott, Bylund, Konrad and Strong offered to be the splash pad subcommittee.

### **Community Outreach**

Pfeifer-Malaney suggested that some members of the committee should offer to do presentations and outreach to other community groups. Ditzler suggested that this connects back to the Organizational assessment project discussed earlier, and that this subcommittee could work on this too. The group agreed to take that on.

### **Committee Officers**

Ditzler reported that 3 individuals had volunteered for committee officer positions: Hulen, Konrad and Pfeifer-Malaney. The positions available are Chair (or Co-Chairs), Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Ditzler asked if there were any other volunteers/nominations for committee officers. Vaughn offered to be Secretary. The committee decided to vote on the following slate of officers:

- **Co-Chairs:** Heather Hulen and Emmett Konrad
- **Secretary:** Brianna Vaughn
- **Treasurer:** Jennifer Pfeifer\_Malaney

Clark moved to approve the full slate of officers. Vail seconded. The motion passed.

### **Monthly Meeting Time**

The committee agreed to meet again on April 5 at 5:30 and will tentatively meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at 5:30. The 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday was another possibility if the 1<sup>st</sup> doesn't work.